

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. - 35. (Canceled)

36. (Previously Presented) A transistor comprising:

a source region, a drain region, a channel region between the source and drain regions, and a gate separated from the channel region by an insulator, the gate formed of a silicon carbide compound  $Si_{1-x}C_x$ , wherein  $x$  is greater than 0.5 to establish a desired value of a barrier energy between the gate and the insulator.

37. (Previously Presented) A transistor comprising:

a source region, a drain region, a channel region between the source and drain regions, and a gate separated from the channel region by an insulator, the gate formed of a silicon carbide compound  $Si_{1-x}C_x$ , wherein  $x$  is selected at a predetermined value approximately between 0.5 and 1.0 to establish a desired value of a barrier energy between the gate and the insulator.

38. (Previously Presented) The transistor of claim 36, wherein the value of the barrier energy is approximately between 0 eV and 2.8 eV.

39. (Previously Presented) The transistor of claim 36, wherein the insulator is formed of silicon dioxide.

40. - 58. (Canceled)

59. (Previously Presented) A transistor comprising:

a source region formed in a substrate;

a drain region formed in the substrate;

a channel region in the substrate between the source region and the drain region; and

a gate separated from the channel region by an insulator, the gate comprising a silicon carbide compound  $Si_{1-x}C_x$ , wherein  $x$  is selected to be between 0.5 and 1.0.

60. (Previously Presented) The transistor of claim 59 wherein:  
the substrate comprises a p-type silicon substrate;  
the source region comprises an n+-type source region formed in the substrate;  
the drain region comprises an n+-type drain region formed in the substrate; and  
the insulator comprises a layer of silicon dioxide.
61. (Previously Presented) The transistor of claim 59 wherein the gate comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a monocrystalline silicon carbide compound, a polycrystalline silicon carbide compound, a microcrystalline silicon carbide compound, and a nanocrystalline silicon carbide compound.
62. - 67. (Canceled)
71. (Previously Presented) A floating gate transistor comprising:  
a source region formed in a substrate;  
a drain region formed in the substrate;  
a channel region in the substrate between the source region and the drain region;  
a floating gate separated from the channel region by an insulator, the floating gate comprising a silicon carbide compound  $Si_{1-x}C_x$ , wherein  $x$  is selected to be between 0.5 and 1.0;  
and  
a control gate separated from the floating gate by an intergate dielectric.
72. (Previously Presented) The floating gate transistor of claim 71 wherein:  
the substrate comprises a p-type silicon substrate;  
the source region comprises an n+-type source region formed in the substrate;  
the drain region comprises an n+-type drain region formed in the substrate;  
the insulator comprises silicon dioxide; and

the intergate dielectric comprises silicon dioxide.

73. (Previously Presented) The floating gate transistor of claim 71 wherein the floating gate comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a monocrystalline silicon carbide compound, a polycrystalline silicon carbide compound, a microcrystalline silicon carbide compound, and a nanocrystalline silicon carbide compound.

74. (Previously Presented) A floating gate transistor comprising:  
a source region formed in a substrate;  
a drain region formed in the substrate;  
a channel region in the substrate between the source region and the drain region;  
a floating gate separated from the channel region by an insulator, the floating gate comprising a silicon carbide compound  $Si_{1-x}C_x$ , wherein  $x$  is selected to be between 0.1 and 0.5;  
and  
a control gate separated from the floating gate by an intergate dielectric.

75. (Previously Presented) The floating gate transistor of claim 74 wherein:  
the substrate comprises a p-type silicon substrate;  
the source region comprises an n+-type source region formed in the substrate;  
the drain region comprises an n+-type drain region formed in the substrate;  
the insulator comprises silicon dioxide; and  
the intergate dielectric comprises silicon dioxide.

76. (Previously Presented) The floating gate transistor of claim 74 wherein the floating gate comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a monocrystalline silicon carbide compound, a polycrystalline silicon carbide compound, a microcrystalline silicon carbide compound, and a nanocrystalline silicon carbide compound.

77. (Previously Presented) A floating gate transistor comprising:  
a source region formed in a substrate;

a drain region formed in the substrate;  
a channel region in the substrate between the source region and the drain region;  
a floating gate separated from the channel region by an insulator, the floating gate comprising a silicon carbide compound  $Si_{1-x}C_x$ , wherein  $x$  is selected to be to be less than 0.5;  
and  
a control gate separated from the floating gate by an intergate dielectric.

78. (Previously Presented) The floating gate transistor of claim 77 wherein:  
the substrate comprises a p-type silicon substrate;  
the source region comprises an n+-type source region formed in the substrate;  
the drain region comprises an n+-type drain region formed in the substrate;  
the insulator comprises silicon dioxide; and  
the intergate dielectric comprises silicon dioxide.
79. (Previously Presented) The floating gate transistor of claim 77 wherein the floating gate comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a monocrystalline silicon carbide compound, a polycrystalline silicon carbide compound, a microcrystalline silicon carbide compound, and a nanocrystalline silicon carbide compound.
80. (Previously Presented) A floating gate transistor comprising:  
a source region formed in a substrate;  
a drain region formed in the substrate;  
a channel region in the substrate between the source region and the drain region;  
a floating gate separated from the channel region by an insulator, the floating gate comprising a silicon carbide compound  $Si_{1-x}C_x$ , wherein  $x$  is selected to be between 0.5 and 0.75;  
and  
a control gate separated from the floating gate by an intergate dielectric.
81. (Previously Presented) The floating gate transistor of claim 80 wherein:  
the substrate comprises a p-type silicon substrate;

the source region comprises an n+-type source region formed in the substrate;  
the drain region comprises an n+-type drain region formed in the substrate;  
the insulator comprises silicon dioxide; and  
the intergate dielectric comprises silicon dioxide.

82. (Previously Presented) The floating gate transistor of claim 80 wherein the floating gate comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a monocrystalline silicon carbide compound, a polycrystalline silicon carbide compound, a microcrystalline silicon carbide compound, and a nanocrystalline silicon carbide compound.

83. (Previously Presented) A floating gate transistor comprising:  
a source region formed in a substrate;  
a drain region formed in the substrate;  
a channel region in the substrate between the source region and the drain region;  
a floating gate separated from the channel region by an insulator, the floating gate comprising a silicon carbide compound  $Si_{1-x}C_x$ , wherein  $x$  is selected to be between 0.75 and 1.0; and  
a control gate separated from the floating gate by an intergate dielectric.

84. (Previously Presented) The floating gate transistor of claim 83 wherein:  
the substrate comprises a p-type silicon substrate;  
the source region comprises an n+-type source region formed in the substrate;  
the drain region comprises an n+-type drain region formed in the substrate;  
the insulator comprises silicon dioxide; and  
the intergate dielectric comprises silicon dioxide.

85. (Previously Presented) The floating gate transistor of claim 83 wherein the floating gate comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a monocrystalline silicon carbide compound, a polycrystalline silicon carbide compound, a microcrystalline silicon carbide compound, and a nanocrystalline silicon carbide compound.

86. - 97. (Canceled)

98. (Previously Presented) The transistor of claim 36, wherein the gate is an electrically isolated floating gate and further comprising a control gate, separated from the floating gate by an intergate dielectric comprising silicon dioxide.

99. (Previously Presented) The transistor of claim 37 wherein:

the insulator comprises silicon dioxide; and

the gate comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a monocrystalline silicon carbide compound, a polycrystalline silicon carbide compound, a microcrystalline silicon carbide compound, and a nanocrystalline silicon carbide compound.